

Services Division

European Satellites Committee

(Meeting on Wednesday, 26 September 1956, 1330)

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Present: [REDACTED], S/TR, [REDACTED], S/OM, [REDACTED], S/PM, [REDACTED], S/TF, [REDACTED], S/COM, [REDACTED], D/G

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The Committee discussed the following current items:

1. Transportation difficulties in Czechoslovakia have reached the point where they are impeding economic development. Freight car shortages in June, 1956, have caused the closing of three open pit coal mines in the North Bohemian Coal Basin.

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2. There have been recent references to 15 and 20 year plans being drawn up for the Satellite economies. This long-range planning is a logical outgrowth of the success so far achieved in the Bloc-wide coordination of the Satellite's annual and five year plans. ([REDACTED] X 2822)

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[REDACTED] of the Geographic Division discussed one aspect of current research being carried on by the East European Branch. This study seeks to determine if a correlation exists between administrative divisions and economic regions within the Satellites. The Yugoslavian pattern which seems to follow this correlation appears to be getting some attention in Rumania and Poland. The goal in Yugoslavia (and perhaps in the Satellites) seems directed at setting up relatively integrated economic areas.

The Yugoslavian pattern of economic decentralization by administrative-economic regions (somewhat comparable to the Soviet pattern) also appears to be getting consideration in the Satellites--particularly Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and East Germany.

On 26 September, members of the Satellite Committee, with other analysts of ORR and with [REDACTED], met 25X1A9a with representatives of the East European Branch of FDD to discuss economic reporting on the Satellites. The Chief of the Branch agreed to reinstitute specific coverage of desired information that has been recently dropped. All analysts were encouraged to discuss with the appropriate persons in FDD any

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specific requirements that should be met. Although FDD research time is limited, no critical ORR need will be sacrificed if such need is brought to the attention of the East European Branch.

Agenda for 3 October, 1956. Room 2130 M, 1330.

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1. Current items.
2. Mr. [REDACTED] of S/OM will present his findings based on recent research on civil defense preparations in the Satellites.

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